



Moab Division of Fire Management

Price Field Office, Moab Field Office, Monticello Field Office

For Immediate Release
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Big Canyon Fire Update

Emery County, UT... Thursday, August 19th the Big Canyon fire behavior increased and became active. The following morning at 8:00 am, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) activated resources and mobilized units to the fire. Two BLM "heavy" wildland fire engines, one BLM type 6 engine, one Forest Service squad and Moab BLM Helitack responded to the fire.

The fire is located in Big Canyon adjacent to Desolation Canyon approximately two miles south of the Carbon and Emery County border. The fire was started by lightning. Because fire activity had been at a minimum and access was limited, the fire had been monitored by aircraft since it started on August 7th at 5:30 pm.

Rugged terrain and limited access are an issue in the area of the fire. Fire management plans were developed should the fire behavior increase or move out of the canyon area. The plans included constructing contingency lines along ridgelines surrounding the fire to keep it contained in Big Canyon.

The BLM wildland firefighters were able to access the ridge to the west of the fire. Additionally, the new fireline would become an extension to the original line built for the Trail Canyon Fire. Fireline construction was completed on Sunday, August 22. Resources were released from the fire later that evening. No private land or structures were threatened by the fire.

For additional wildfire information, go to website www.utahfireinfo.gov.

Remember only you can prevent wildfire. Do your part. Don't start wildfires.

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